RELIGION in MONGOLIA

Mongolian Lamas Conducting Religious Ceremony With Aid of Prayer Flags.
(Prepared by the National Geographic Society, Washington, D. C.)

THE religion of the Lamaism, a debased form of Buddhism, colors all life in Mongolia. Its rites seem strange to the Westerner.

Fanatical devotees may be met performing the "calling worship"—that is to say, throwing themselves flat on their faces and marking the places of their next prostration with their foreheads—a very exhausting form of piety, which soon wears out hands and clothes unless (as generally happens) wooden sandals are fitted to the hands and sheepskin pads to the knees.

Even little children may be seen turning prayer-wheels filled with written prayers, the idea being that any devout believer who turns the wheel acquires as much merit by so doing as if he had repeated all the prayers thus set in motion.

One of the greatest festivals of the Lama church is the Devil Dance, which takes place each spring and represents the chasing out of the Spirit of Evil. The dance is simply a series of posturings of men and boys in rich costumes and fearsome animal masks, accompanied by an impressive chant.

But a far more interesting survival of the primitive nature cult is known as the Midsummer Festival. It attracts crowds of pilgrims.

The richer and more prosperous visitors arrive in camel carts, with an impressive train of outriders, and camp in their own tents. Some families come in bullock wagons, which, with a few mats fixed over them, make admirable shelters for their stay.

But by far the greatest number appear on horseback, solitary or in companies, men and women, respectable characters and notorious thieves. Lamas and laymen, dressed—some well, some poorly, but nearly all gaudily—in yellow, blue, red, white, or green.

Assemble at the Sacred Mount.

On the day of the ceremony the monastery is astir before dawn. The monks of various grades assemble soon after cockcrow, gorgeous in purple hieratic gowns, red waistcoats, scarlet or golden togas.

The "Living Buddha" appears in his fringed orange felt helmet, the abbots in their fat lacquer hats, the lesser Lamas in silk or gold brocade skull caps, the lay officials in the old Manchu hats topped with colored buttons to denote their rank.

The whole company rides out of the monastery gate on ponies well-groomed for the occasion and crosses the steppe to the obo, or sacred mount. Such elevations, crowned by piles of stones with a flagstaff and fluttering prayer banners in the center, are landmarks all over Mongolia.

Having ascended the hill, the priests gather round the stone cairn, which has been previously decorated with leaves and branches. A tent is set up near by for the "Living Buddha," the high Lamas, and the civil officials. Lesser dignitaries squat upon the ground in a circle.

Then the weird service begins, accompanied by all the strange paraphernalia of the Lama cult—huge bronze trumpets six feet long, flutes made from sea shells, and libation cups from human skulls.

By this time a group of white tents has been erected in the meadow for the feast. The largest serves as a reception hall. Inside a big transversal bench has been prepared for the guests of honor, whose places are marked by double cushions covered with priceless old silk carpets from the treasury of the monastery. Two choirs of singers in bright robes kneel on either side of the broad entrance and chant a welcome.

Soon the feast begins. A cup made of the precious "zahla" wood, which will make water boil and has the power to detect poison, is placed before each distinguished visitor, with smaller cups for the "airak" and "kumiss"—liquors made from fermented milk.

The principal meat dish is mutton. Sheep are served whole on large platters, the four legs arranged around the rump, the skull on top.

As a kneeling attendant passes each dish to a guest, the Lama host makes a cross on the skull, which is then taken away. A second serving Lama, acting as butler for the occasion, then cuts up the meat. The rumps and tails are given to those whom the monks especially delight to honor.

After the feast there is a wrestling match. Dressed in a costume with stiff vest and short skirt, not unlike the garb of a Roman soldier, two champions face each other in the center of an open space. One is obviously a horseman, to judge by his bowed legs. His length of arm and breadth of chest show him to be a redoubtable opponent. The adversary is a gigantic Lama belonging to the "tsang" (community of the "Living Buddha") of the neighborhood. Three rounds constitute the match, and according to the rules neither wrestler may grip the other, but each must try to throw his opponent by laying hold of his belt.

The first bout is adjudged to the Lama amid great enthusiasm; the second goes to the horseman, and the third, which the crowd watches in a fever of excitement, is also won by him after a hard struggle.

Then the proud champion, much

Retiring Irish envoy says farewell to the Rhineland as they begin evacuation of the occupied territory. 2—Curtis D. Wilbur in his robes as judge of the U. S. Circuit court, Ninth district. 3—Champion fife and drum corps of the American Legion from Miami calling upon President Hoover on its tour of the country.

NEWS REVIEW OF CURRENT EVENTS

Chairman Legge Makes Plain to Senators His Farm Board Policy.

By EDWARD W. PICKARD

ALEXANDER LEGGE, chairman of the federal farm board, intends that the money put at the disposal of the board shall be handled "with a reasonable measure of safety," and he doesn't wish his appointment to be confirmed under the mistaken impression that any other policy will be followed. He made that clear to the senate committee that this function might be investigated by those who are probing the doings of lobbyists, for, according to Brookhart, there was much discussion of pending railroad legislation.

Mr. Howell, in continuing his attacks, charged as one instance of the failure of local enforcers that the Carlton club, one of the most exclusive night clubs in the capital, has never been raided or closed up, although four dry agents reported witnessing Volstead violations at numerous tables. Later he said he would seek to have Gen. Smedley D. Butler, commandant of the marine corps base at Quantico, detailed to Washington for a "clean-up job." General Butler recently compelled the town authorities of Quantico to enforce the prohibition law by ordering the marines not to enter the town until the speakeasies and bootleggers were driven out.

HARRY F. SINCLAIR'S appeal to the President for commutation of sentence having been denied on recommendation of Attorney General Mitchell, the imprisoned oil magnate issued a statement calling on Mr. Mitchell to make public all of the record in his plea. His principal reason for asking for freedom, Sinclair declared, was that he had been jailed for jury shadowing—which had not before been prohibited by statute or rule of the court—"because of a jury became contempt of court only when I conspired in it," he declared.

"In effect," Sinclair said, "the statement of the attorney general can be summed up to mean that I should remain in jail because I was acquitted of an alleged offense for which he feels I should have been convicted."

FOR the first time President Hoover took a hand in the tariff fight when he issued a statement urging the retention of the flexible tariff, which he asserted is "a protection for the sound progress in our economic system and for the future protection of our farmers and our industries and consumers." He gave a considerable length his reasons for this assertion, taking direct issue with the Democrats and radical Republicans who seek the repeal of the flexible tariff. Senator Pat Harrison of Mississippi predicted the President would be defeated on this proposition.

EVERY American was interested in the wedding of Maj. John Coolidge, son of former President and Mrs. Coolidge, and Florence Trumbull, daughter of Governor Trumbull of Connecticut. The ceremony took place in the bride's home town, Plainville, Conn., and though the families tried to make it a simple affair, it was attended by a number of distinguished persons and the details were read with avidity throughout the land. The wedding gifts nearly filled one half of the second floor of the Trumbull home and included a big silver bowl and candlesticks from the foreign envoys in Washington. Mr. Coolidge gave "a substantial check" and Mrs. Coolidge presented a solid mahogany bedroom suite of colonial design and a check for $250, which she received for her room, "The Open Door," inspired by the fifth anniversary of the death of her other son, Calvin Coolidge, Jr.

JACKSON REYNOLDS, president of the First National bank of New York, and Melvin A. Traylor, president of the First National bank of Chicago, American representatives on the commission that is to set up the bank for international settlement provided for in the Young reparations plan, were called for Europe, where they will meet their European colleagues. The effort to put the bank under complete control of the League of Nations failed for the time being in Geneva, but something in that line may come up at later sessions of the league assembly. Since it was specified by the Young commission that the bank should be dominated by financial and not political interests, Messrs. Reynolds and Traylor did not confer with President Hoover before departing.

RAMSAY MACDONALD, prime minister of Great Britain, occupying the imperial suite on the liner Berengaria, sailed for the United States for his conference with President Hoover. He is bringing no staff of experts with him because, as he told the English, the technical points of the proposed plan for a five-power naval limitation conference have already been sejied and all that is needed is a diplomatic agreement. In the conversations with Mr. Hoover, besides the naval conference, other matters entering into Anglo-American relations will be discussed, one of them possibly being certain changes in the ship liquor treaty negotiated in 1923.

LAST week it was Russia's turn to issue an ultimatum, so the Soviet government warned the Chinese Nationalist government that any further Chinese attacks on the Russian population along the Manchurian border would result in immediate and decisive action by the Red army.

Gen. Chang Fak-wei, reactionary commander of the Cantonese "Iron Side" division, who was dismissed by the Nanking government, led his troops in a rebellion that for some days looked very serious. But toward the end of the week the Nationalist authorities announced that it was broken and Chang's soldiers surrounded at Lichow.

Letters from missionaries tell of the massacre, late in August, of 3,000 rebellious Moslems in Kansu province. The victims were gathered at Taochow under a pretext and all males between the ages of fifteen and fifty were slaughtered.

POLITICAL quarrels in Austria, which for some weeks have been threatening civil war, were further complicated by the resignation of Chancellor Streerwitz and his Christian Socialist cabinet because certain elements in their party could no longer be restrained. Johan Schober, head of the Vienna police, was made chancellor and he selected as minister of war Gen. Karl Vaugoin, who has made the army a powerful conservative force. Both these men are bitter foes of the Socialists.

The coalition government of Czechoslovakia which had held office since last February also resigned. Parliament was dissolved and new elections were called for October 27.

ACCORDING to reports from Calcutta, Amir Habibullah, otherwise Bacha Sakao, the water carrier and bandit who made himself king of Afghanistan, was assassinated. Recent advices from Peshawar stated unrest was increasing in Afghanistan, owing to Habibullah's inability to raise money, and a counter revolution was threatened.

COLONEL LINDBERGH'S latest feat was a flight from Miami to Cuba, Trinidad, British Guiana and Dutch Guiana for the purpose of opening a new aerial route. He was accompanied by Mrs. Lindbergh and several others and the trip was without undue incident. Coming back from Paramaribo in Dutch Guiana, the colonel turned his plane westward for flight to Maracay, Venezuela. From there his homeward course included Curacao, Maracaibo, Barranquilla, the Canal Zone and again Cuba.

PROMINENT among those whom death claimed were Cardinal Dubois, archbishop of Paris; Gen. Harry F. Hodges, builder of the Panama canal locks, and Miller Huggins, manager of the New York Yankees of the American league.

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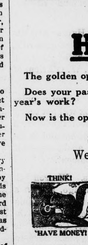

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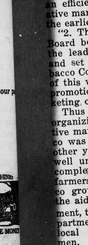

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THURSDAY, OCT. 3, 1829

Will Tobacco Farmers Organize?

A determined group of hundreds of farmers from North and South Carolina and Virginia met in Raleigh last week unanimously and enthusiastically adopting this resolution:

"Whereas, the assistance and leadership offered by the Federal Government through the newly created Farm Board at the time especially propitious for the organizing of effective cooperative marketing, therefore be it—

"Resolved, 1. That the Federal Farm Board, the United States Department of Agriculture, the State agricultural colleges, and the state departments of agriculture of the southeastern states be requested to cooperate with the leading farmers, bankers and business men in these states in working out and setting up an efficient system of cooperative marketing for tobacco at the earliest possible moment.

"2. That the Federal Farm Board be requested to take the leadership in this matter and set up an 'Interstate Tobacco Committee' for the study of this whole subject, and the promotion of cooperative marketing of tobacco."

Thus the machinery for the organizing of a new cooperative marketing plan for tobacco was placed in motion after other plans to find the plans well under way and possibly completed. Representative farmers from the three tobacco growing states requested the aid of the federal government, the state agricultural departments and interests, the local bankers and business men.

The new cooperative organization will have many advantages over the ill-fated association three years ago. Costly mistakes discovered by experience may be avoided and proper supervision can be given by the government through its recently established Federal Farm Board.

In the new attempt, a large, unwieldy organization, must be avoided, and in its stead smaller groups authorized to handle flue-cured tobacco growers of Virginia, comprising the the farmers of a dozeen counties in Virginia, would make an excellent group, operating independent of the bright tobacco growers of other states.

A closer cooperation could be effected, and men capable of giving this group personal attention could be obtained at a reasonable salary. Such an association with offices in a central point, where information incident to the welfare of the members could be readily obtained, and where directors' meeting could be frequently held, would tend to instill confidence into its composite members. Representative farmers chosen by local groups should control an dform the board of directors of such an organization. The management should be the employees of the farmers, and not the farmers the employees of the managers, as in the case of many cooperatives in the southeastern states.

A more elastic contract should be made among the farmers. Five years is a long time to oblige one's self, and on account of the uncertainties of conditions, provisions are necessary allowing members to withdraw. Some fixed time each year should be stated for receiving resignations. In this way the association would be composed of active satisfied members, working together because they believe in the principles of cooperative marketing.

Members kept in the association because of the fear of prosecution for violating their contracts, are of no value to the organization.

The power of organization lies in the hands of the growers themselves. Government agencies, bankers, business men, agricultural experts, stand ready, in a spirit of cooperation to aid and assist, but the first step must be made by the growers. As stated before in the columns, this matter should receive the attention of every farmers' organization of every section. Committees for studying the problem could greatly assis in solution and individual growers should give it their prayerful thought.—Farmville Herald.

This paper has urged the farmers of the dark belt to organize and get ready for the aid afforded by the National Farm Relief measures.

If our farmers ever expect to stabilize prices for the great dark tobacco product, more representative farmers should more promptly organize the twenty dark-fired counties. We stand ready in every possible way to aid in this matter—the state is ready, and National Government is ready—will the growers step out and start the movement in earnest and determination?

Tobacco Graded Officially

The tobacco grading work that has been done on the Lynchburg market during the past two seasons has increased in demand not only on that market, but for other markets in Virginia and other states. It has attracted interest in foreign countries. The coming season this service will be extended to the South Hill and Farmville markets, in addition to the Lynchburg market. It is now a joint Federal-State service and is being extended this season to South Carolina, North Carolina, Kentucky and Tennessee.

The principal objects of the service are as follows:

To bring out a more uniform market for tobacco of like quality, grade and length.

To encourage farmers in the production of better quality tobacco.

To give the farmer a more definite basis for sorting his tobacco.

To demonstrate to farmers the value of proper assorting.

To enable farmers to become familiar with the grades that are more in demand, so that they can intelligently plan to produce tobacco that will meet market requirements.

To bring about a closer coopretion and better understanding between the producers, warehousemen and buyers, for the purpose of enabling the American producers and dealers to better compete with the increasing competition of foreign grown tobaccco.

To enable buyers and manufacturers to secure a more uniform packing of tobacco as a result of more careful and intelligent assorting by farmers.

To give to the buyers and the farmers the benefit of the impartial judgement of an experienced tobacco man who has carefully inspected the tobacco without binding or obliging either party to accept the findings of the official grader.

To make available to farmers definite and practical information on current prices by grades based upon the actual sales of tobacco.

To give to the tobacco trade generally a common language which will facilitate the transaction of business through a general knowledge of the standard grades for tobacco.

A tabulation of the tobacco graded on the Lynchburg market during the past two years follows:

Amount of Tobacco graded through the Federal- State grading service.

Table 1 — Showing the amount of Virginia fire-cured tobacco, U. S. Type 21, graded on the Lynchburg, Virginia market during the past two seasons in which the Federal-State grading service was in operation. In the last column is shown the average price received by farmers for graded tobacco when sold at auction. Prices are in dolars per hundred pounds. Prepared by Frank R. Wilkinson, Tobacco Marketing Specialist, U. S. Department of Agriculture.

Grader, season of 1927-28 (1927 crop)—3,010 lots, 415,525 pounds, averaged $12.77.
Graded, season of 1928-29 (1928 crop)—6,897 lots, 877,165 pounds, averaged $14.39.
Total graded (1927 and 1928 crops)—9,907 lots, 1,292,690 pounds, total average $13.87.

Table 1 (a)—Showing the amount of tobacco graded before and after Christmas for the two seasons, and the average price received by farmers for graded tobacco during each period.

Graded in November and December, 1927—420 lots, 50,334 pounds, average $14.01.
Graded in January, February, March and April, -928—2,590 lots, 365, 191 pounds, average $12.60. Graded in November and December, 1928—2,286 lots, 262,249 pounds, average $13.91. Graded in January, February and March 1929 — 4,611 lots, 614,871 pounds, average $14.59. Total graded—9,807 lots, 1,292,690 pounds, averaged $13.87.

Table 1. (b)—Showing the amount of tobacco graded for calendar year to the end of March 1929, and the average received for graded tobacco each year.

Graded in 1927—420 lots, 50,334 pounds, averaged $14.01. Graded in 1928—4,876 lots, 627,485 pounds, averaged $13.15. Graded in 1929 (to March 31st)—4,611 lots, 614,871 pounds, averaged $14.59. Total graded— 9,907 lots, 1,282,690 pounds, averaged $13.87.

NOTE—The total producers' sales of the 1927 crop of Type 1 in all markets amounted to 26,472,000 pounds, which averaged $9.93 per hundred. The sales of the 1928 crop of Type 21 amounted to 21,935,000 pounds which averaged $10.69. The 1927 crop Lynchburg sold 8,308,000 pounds and the 1728 crop 5,983,000 pounds. For the 1927 crop Lynchburg averaged for ungraded tobacco $10.11, for graded $12.77, and for the market average covering both graded and ungraded tobacco was $10.23. The ungraded tobacco of the 1928 crop averaged in Lynchburg $9.49,the graded tobacco averaged $14.39, and the market and ungraded tobacco was $10.10.

The tobacco sold in South Hill, Farmville and Lynchburg markets during the coming season will be officially graded unless the owner requests that it be sold without being graded. A fee of 5c per hundred pounds will be deducted from the returns of the sale by the warehousemen and paid to the Government agencies to help for the expenses of the services.

Those desiring summaries official grades or the complete grades for tobacco, or further information on the service, should communicate with the Division of Markets, State Office Building Richmond, Va., or the U. S. Bureau of Economics, Washington, D. C.

Family Reunion

In celebration of the 70th birthday of Mr. Spurgeon Coleman a family reunion was held at his home near Bent Creek last Sunday.

Refreshments consisting of ice cream and cake in addition to a varied assortment of food of a more substantial nature were served to more than fifty friends and relatives. A large cake decorated with seventy candles graced the center of the table.

"When I have ceased to breathe my wings
Against the faultiness of things,
And learn that compromises wait
Behind each hardly open gate;
When I look life in the eyes
Grown calm, and very coldly wise,
Life will have given me the truth
And taken, in exchange, my youth."

This Week
by Arthur Brisbane

Intellectual America Does Education Fail? Not Quite Civilized Youth, Happy, Hopeful

MAN is a strange animal. David Bernstein, Brooklyn tailor, deliberately killed a man against whom he held no grudge, pushing him off an elevated railroad platform. No one saw him. He confessed to the police. Insane possibly.

Intellectual Americans paid $300,000 to see Mr. Tom Loughran fight Mr. Jack Sharkey, a Lithuanian who borrows his fighting name.

The gentlemen who are "heavyweights" in more senses than one, fought three rounds. Sharkey won, Mr. Loughran "technically knocked out."

The same crowd will pay $300,000 more, later, to see them fight three more rounds, with Mr. Loughran winning.

After that will come the deciding match. Sad dull days for those that crave brutality.

Bertrand Russell, philosopher, able mathematician, will discuss education with Will Durant, who writes about philosophy. Mr. Russell says education is a failure. Too few men teach, and too many women teachers make boys effeminate.

That's probably what Mr. Russell's troglodyte ancestor said, when women were telling little boys that they ought not to kill their neighbors, and crack open their thigh bones to get at the marrow.

American education, says Mr. Russell, is controlled "by influential business men and religious sects," whereas it ought to be controlled by "learned men."

Our children are taught "right thinking" instead of plain thinking.

Also Mr. Russell discovers that America, more than any other country "except Tibet, is subject to religious interference with education."

The best thing ever said about education was said by Jaures, killed in Paris at the beginning of the war, in an address to school teachers of France. "Teach the children to read intelligently, and all knowledge will be open to them."

It is easy to teach children to read; not so easy to teach intelligent reading.

Clemenceau has said: "The Individual may become like a god, but the crowd remains a herd of cattle."

It is true that exceptional individuals, under our system of education, may become partly educated.

The crowd gets along fairly well with its A B C's and the multiplication table.

Senator Borah says that President Hoover "must go through to the end, and assume responsibility for the tariff." That new view of the President's duty interests Mr. Hoover and the people.

The old idea was that Congress should write the laws, the President approve or veto them, the Supreme court interpret them.

Mr. Mussolini would agree with Senator Borah's suggestion.

A talented American actress decided she must play Shylock, and did, in London. Critics said her false whiskers were not convincing. The young lady probably will die convinced she is a great, unappreciated Shylock.

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